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### **REMARKS**

In the Reply and Amendment dated March 18, 2003, applicants cancelled Claims 1-21 and added new Claims 22-92 in their stead. The present amendment seeks to amend Claims 22-35, 37 and 85 to replace the phrase "muscle fiber" with the phrase --contractile fibers-- at each occurrence.

Muscle fibers are not the only contractile fibers to which this invention relates; myofibroblasts (a subpopulation of dermal fibroblasts) exhibit contractile characteristics in common with muscle tissue. Note paragraphs [005] to [0020] of the specification, particularly paragraph [006] which notes these types of contractile fibers. Thus, no new matter has been introduced.

The amendments to the claims set forth above replaces "muscle fiber" with the broader terminology --contractile fibers-- in order not to unintentionally exclude influencing calcium channels in the myofibroblasts as well as in muscle fiber.

All of the discussion of the new claims and of the references and rejections set forth in the March 18, 2003 Reply and Amendment are equally applicable to the claims as amended hereinabove.

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Entry of this amendment and further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are believed to be next in order and are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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22. (Amended) A regime/regimen for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, comprising administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, and a physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor.

23. (Amended) A regime/regimen according to Claim 22 for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, comprising administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition consisting essentially of an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, and a physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor.

24. (Amended) A regime/regimen according to Claim 22 for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue and thus treat wrinkles and fine lines in the skin, comprising topically administering to an

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individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising: an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue and thus treat wrinkles and fine lines, said manganese and/or at least one salt thereof being the only active ingredient for treating wrinkles and fine lines in said composition; and a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor.

25. (Amended) A regime/regimen according to Claim 24 for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue and thus reduce wrinkles and fine lines in the skin, comprising topically administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising: an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue and thus reduce wrinkles and fine lines, said manganese and/or at least one salt thereof being the only active ingredient for treating wrinkles and fine lines in said composition; and a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor.

26. (Amended) A regime/regimen according to Claim 22 for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous

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and/or subcutaneous tissue and thus smooth the skin, comprising topically administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue and thus smooth the skin, said manganese and/or at least one salt thereof being the only active ingredient for smoothing the skin in said composition; and a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle diluent or carrier therefor.

27. (Amended) A regime/regimen according to Claim 22 for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue and thus attenuate and/or eliminate microrelief in the skin, comprising topically administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising: an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue and thus attenuate and/or eliminate microrelief in the skin, said manganese and/or salt thereof being the only active ingredient for attenuating and/or eliminating microrelief in the skin in said composition; and a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor.

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28. (Amended) A regime/regimen for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue and to thus reduce wrinkles and/or fine lines in the skin, and/or to thus smooth the skin and/or to thus attenuate and/or eliminate microrelief in the skin, comprising topically administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising: an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue and to thus reduce wrinkles and/or fine lines in the skin, and/or to thus smooth the skin and/or to thus attenuate and/or eliminate microrelief in the skin, said manganese and/or salt thereof being the only active ingredient for reducing wrinkles or fine lines, or for smoothing the skin or for attenuating or eliminating microrelief in the skin in said composition; and a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor.

29. (Amended) A regime/regimen for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue and to thus reduce wrinkles and/or fine lines in the skin, and/or to thus smooth the skin and/or to thus attenuate and/or eliminate microrelief in the skin, comprising topically administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition

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consisting essentially of: (i) an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue and to thus reduce wrinkles and/or fine lines in the skin, and/or to thus smooth the skin, and/or to thus attenuate and/or eliminate microrelief in the skin; and (ii) a bioaffecting amount of alverine or salt thereof, a keratolytic agent, a chlorine-channel opener, a hydroxy acid and/or a retinoid; formulated into a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor.

30. (Amended) A regime/regimen according to Claim 29 for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue and to thus reduce wrinkles and/or fine lines in the skin and/or to thus smooth the skin and/or to thus attenuate and/or eliminate microrelief in the skin, comprising topically administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition consisting essentially of: (i) an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue and to thus reduce wrinkles and/or fine lines in the skin, and/or to thus smooth the skin, and/or to thus attenuate and/or eliminate microrelief in the skin; and (ii) a bioaffecting amount of alverine

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or salt thereof and/or a chlorine-channel opener; formulated into a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor.

31. (Amended) A regime/regimen for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, comprising administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, and a physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor; wherein from 0.0001% to 10% by weight of manganese is administered.

32. (Amended) A regime/regimen for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, comprising administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, and a physiologically acceptable



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vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor; wherein manganese is administered as at least one inorganic and/or organic manganese salt.

33. (Amended) A regime/regimen according to Claim 22 for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue and thus treat wrinkles and fine lines in the skin, comprising topically administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising: an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue and thus treat wrinkles and fine lines, said manganese and/or at least one salt thereof being the only active ingredient for treating wrinkles and fine lines in said composition; and a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor; wherein from 0.0001% to 10% by weight of manganese is administered.

34. (New) A regime/regimen according to Claim 22 for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue and thus treat wrinkles and fine lines in the skin, comprising topically administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising: an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels

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in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue and thus treat wrinkles and fine lines, said manganese and/or at least one salt thereof being the only active ingredient for treating wrinkles and fine lines in said composition; and a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor; wherein manganese is administered as at least one inorganic and/or organic manganese salt.

35. (Amended) A regime/regimen for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, comprising administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, and a physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor; wherein manganese is administered as at least one of manganese gluconate, manganese carbonate, manganese acetate, manganese citrate, manganese oleate and/or manganese oxalate.

37. (Amended) A regime/regimen for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, comprising administering to an individual subject in need of such treatment a

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cosmetic/dermatological composition comprising an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken cutaneous and/or subcutaneous tissue, and a physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor; wherein manganese is administered as at least one of manganese chloride, manganese borate, manganese nitrate, manganese phosphate and/or manganese sulfate.

85. (Amended) A topically applicable cosmetic/dermatological composition suited for influencing calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue, said composition consisting essentially of: (i) an amount of manganese and/or at least one salt thereof effective to influence calcium channels in [muscle fiber] contractile fibers to relax and/or slacken skin tissue; and (ii) a bioaffecting amount of alverine or salt thereof and/or a chlorine-channel opener; formulated into a topically applicable, physiologically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier therefor.